



NJ GEAR UP Scholarship Eligibility Requirements

1. To receive GEAR UP funding, the student must attend a NJ, Title IV eligible, degree-granting institution. The institution does not have to currently participate in the EOF program.
2. The maximum number of semesters for which GEAR UP funding may be renewed is to be equivalent to the maximum number of semesters for which TAG funding may be renewed (9 – for 4-year degree programs/5- for 2-year degree programs).
3. GEAR UP funding is only available for fall and spring semesters. No summer payments will be made.
4. Part time GEAR UP funding will only be available to students after initial full time payment has been received for at least one semester (similar to the Part Time TAG for EOF program). This funding will be offered in a prorated formula, similar to part time EOF.
5. Application deadlines will be June 1 for students who have received prior TAG payment, October 1 for first time students, and March 1 for spring only students. Schools are responsible for reinforcing these deadlines with students. GEAR UP students failing to meet state and/or federal deadlines will not be entitled to special treatment or extension of deadlines. Student appeals regarding the loss of GEAR UP funding for any reason shall be directed to and responded to by CHE.
6. Students transferring from one NJ GEAR UP eligible institution to another NJ GEAR UP eligible institution will remain eligible for GEAR UP funding.
7. Students transferring from an out of state institution after first enrolling at an out of state school to a NJ GEAR UP eligible institution will not be eligible to receive GEAR UP funding.
8. Students who delay enrollment for up to one year after high school graduation (who do not enroll in an out of state institution) shall be eligible for GEAR UP funding upon entry into a NJ GEAR UP eligible institution.
9. New Jersey GEAR UP scholarships are contingent upon federal funding.
10. In order to maintain GEAR UP funding after the initial year of enrollment, students must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards as established by their institution and monitored for continued EOF eligibility.



NJ GEAR UP Administrative Requirements

1. The New Jersey Commission on Higher Education (CHE) has been designated as the lead agency for the New Jersey GEAR UP Project and as such is the primary contact for inquiries, requests and communications from or on behalf of student, families and institutions relating to the award, disbursement and administration of the GEAR UP Scholarship.
2. The New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA) has primary responsibility for informing students, parents, and guidance counselors about financial aid and is responsible for GEAR UP scholarship award administration.
3. Notification of award eligibility will be made through GEAR UP student eligibility notices and institutional GEAR UP award rosters.
4. GEAR UP award rosters will be forwarded by HESAA for institutional certification of student enrollment to EOF Directors with copy to Financial Aid Directors. These rosters will be sent in time frames similar to those established for TAG pre-disbursement, disbursement and post-disbursement rosters. Enrollment certification is to be completed by the campus EOF Director, and for campuses without an EOF program, by that campus's Financial Aid Director.
5. GEAR UP funds will be disbursed from CHE directly to institutions.
6. GEAR UP student eligibility notices will be sent to students identified as eligible by the GEAR UP Program Director. Copies of this notification will be forwarded to EOF and Financial Aid offices when a "first choice" college has been identified with the GEAR UP Program Director.
7. GEAR UP funds can be used to replace EFC. Thus, an overaward only occurs if a student is packaged over the Cost of Attendance.
8. New Jersey GEAR UP scholarships are to be awarded at \$3000 per academic year except in cases of reduction required due to overawards as defined above.
9. New Jersey GEAR UP scholarships are contingent upon federal funding.

05/30/03

Director of Financial Aid Services, NJHESAA